Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Over a quarter of a million employed in culture: ABS

Approximately 260,000 people aged 15 years and over (3.1% of all employed people) worked in a cultural occupation as their main job at the time of the 2001 Census, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

This was an increase of nearly 30,000 people employed in cultural occupations between the 1996 and 2001 Censuses.

Despite a 14% fall (from 32,300 to 27,700) since 1996, Printing Tradesperson was the largest cultural occupation group in 2001.

There were increases in most of the other 93 cultural occupations. The number of Graphic Designers increased by 62% (from 13,100 in 1996 to 21,100 in 2001), to become the second most common cultural occupation.

Other notable increases were Advertising Specialist (from 1,300 to 3,400) and Architect and Landscape Architect (from 11,300 to 13,100).

Almost 300,000 employed people had their main job in a cultural industry in 2001.

The largest cultural industries were Newspaper, Book and Stationery Retailing (38,000 employed people) and Architectural Services (25,700 employed people).

More males than females were employed in the Sound Recording Studios (74%) and Architectural Services (69%) industries, while females had greater representation in the Library (80%) and Newspaper, Book and Stationery Retailing (63%) industries.

Further details on the characteristics of those employed in cultural occupations and industries, including age, birthplace, income and hours worked, can be found in **Employment in Culture, Australia, 2001** (cat. no. 6273.0).

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